THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) The Archaeological Survey of India has 3606 centrally protected monuments. The monuments are inspected periodically. Based upon their actual requirements & availability of funds, conservation and development works are approved and taken up for execution.

Target for Kisan Credit Card for North-Eastern States

960. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target for Kisan Credit Card for N.E. States during 2001-2002, State-wise, separately;

(b) what are the achievements;

(c) whether achievement is far short of the target;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefore;

(e) the amount disbursed so far, State-wise; and

(f) whether the banks are violating the directives of RBI in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the annual targets regarding issuance of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) are set bank-wise and not state-wise. In so far as the public sector banks are concerned, the target for the year 2001-2002 is 33 lakh KCCs for all states. Against this target public sector banks have issued 9.47 lakh KCCs upto August 2001. However, state-wise targets have been fixed for cooperative banks and regional rural banks, by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). The details of the target fixed and the achievement thereof in North Eastern States during the year 2001-2002 (upto 31.8.2001) are given below:

No.	State/UT	State Cooperative Banks		Regional Rural Banks	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achiement
1.	Assam	500	55	1050	514
2.	Arunahcal Pradesh	350	53	100	123
3.	Meghalaya	400	11	875	59
4.	Mizoram	50	700	150	0
5.	Manipur	750	0	100	0
6.	Nagaland	5000	0	10	1
7.	Tripura	1500	489	1000	112
	TOTAL	8550	1308	3285	809

(c) and (d) During the year 2000-2001, against the target of 25 lakh KCCs, the public sector banks have issued 23.00 lakh KCCs registering an achievement of 95.58% of the annual target. The achievements of cooperative banks and regional rural banks during 2000-2001 as against their target have been 9% and 82% respectively. The performance of the cooperative banks in North-Eastern Region has been unsatisfactory mainly because of the high level of defaulter borrowers and poor recoveries, as defaulters are ineligible for issue of KCCs. Low disbursement of crop loans, non-remunerative form of agriculture in the region, lack of infrastructural facilities in the region, geographical disadvantages are also some of the factors affecting the progress of the issuance of KCCs in the region.

(e) The amount disbursed by public sector banks, cooperative banks and regional rural banks through KCCs in the North-Eastern Region (State-wise) are given below:

(Rs. lakhs)

No.	State/UT	Public Sector Banks (since inception)	Cooperative Banks during 2001-2002	Regional Rural Banks during 2001-2002
1.	Assam	848.15	12.13	128.71
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.05	5.30	26.18
3.	Meghalaya	72.24	0.89	4.95
4.	Mizoram	0.3	35.00	0.00
5.	Manipur	22.96	0.00	0.00
6.	Nagaland	0.5	0.00	0.10
7.	Tripura	75.84	55.04	16.19
	TOTAL	1029.04	108.36	176.13

(f) RBI and NABARD have reported that there have been no complaints received by them regarding the violation of guidelines/ instructions issued in this regard.

Merger of nationalised banks

961. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to merge some nationalised banks to improve efficiency and profitability;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Narsimham Committee had also recommended merger of nationalised banks;

(d) if so, whether any nationalised bank has made application for merger;

(e) if so, the details of such applications; and

(f) the present status of the applications?